

7th February 1924]

(2) & (3) Surplus officers were retired to the extent necessary, and there still remained nine officers who had completed twenty-five years' qualifying service whom it was not found necessary to discharge immediately. Of these, two were Europeans, four Brahmans and three non-Brahmans. Of the first and last class, one in each has since retired.

(4) Yes.

Mr. ABBAS ALI KHAN:—"May I enquire, Sir, whether the Indian Christians are classified as members of the non-Brahman party?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"The hon. Member must know that for himself. He is an Advocate of experience."

Mr. ABBAS ALI KHAN:—"I have no doubt about it, Sir, but I find that whereas the only Indian Christian in the service was compulsorily retired, the three non-Brahmans were retained?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"The information with regard to that particular officer will not be to his credit, nor to his advantage in the matter of pension, if the full information is disclosed."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MULLALIYAR:—"The hon. the Minister said that if certain information is to be disclosed, it would not be to the advantage of the individual officer concerned. Is it communal factor, or personal, Sir?"

(No answer.)

Reforms (Council Secretaries).

Council Secretaries.

283 Q.—Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Council Secretaries appointed during the first Legislative Council under section 52 (4) of the Government of India Act still continue as Council Secretaries having regard to the provision of sub-section (4) of that section;

(b) whether any of the Council Secretaries have submitted their resignation; and whether the resignations have been accepted;

(c) whether any of them still continue to draw pay;

(d) whether it is a fact that one of them, though not re-elected to the Council, has drawn pay; and, if so, until what date;

(e) what is the amount of salary that has been drawn by each of the Council Secretaries between 1st April to August 1923 and after the dissolution of the Council in September 1923; and

(f) whether the appointment of the Council Secretaries made by His Excellency the Governor under section 52 of the Act was intended to continue beyond the period of the last Council?

A.—(a) to (d) The three Council Secretaries continued in office till the 1st December 1923, on which date they resigned and their resignations were accepted. No appointments have been made after 1st December 1923, and so no one has drawn pay from that date.